

The Publication for the Employees of the Department of Personnel & Administration

GOVERNOR OWENS HOSTS SEPTEMBER 11TH OBSERVANCE AT STATE CAPITOL

Governor Owens held a predawn ceremony at the State Capitol in remembrance of the terrorist attacks that took place September 11, 2001. The ceremony began with opening remarks from the Governor at 6:15 a.m. and included the National Guard lowering the flags at the capitol at 6:46 a.m. to mark the time the first plane crashed into the World Trade Center. A flyover by the Colorado Air National Guard's 120th Fighter Squadron concluded the event.

"Colorado will mark September 11th as a day of remembrance for the victims and the heroes of that dark day in our history," the Governor said. "The terrorist attacks also unified and strengthened our nation. So I am calling on Coloradans to unite this September 11th so that we never forget these attacks or the men and women who are fighting for our freedom."

The Governor also hosted a luncheon at the Governor's Residence on September 10th for the immediate families of the Colorado National Guard troops who are presently deployed in the Middle East.

The Colorado State Employee Assistance Program (C-SEAP) would like to remind you that they are available to help employees with any emotional difficulties related to the September 11th anniversary or at any other time. They may be reached at **303-866-4321** or **1-800-821-8154**.



Governor Owens presents Michael Romero, whose son Daniel was killed in action in Afghanistan, a 9/11 commemorative tie given to the Governor by President George W. Bush.

KAY KISHLINE NAMED STATE PURCHASING DIRECTOR



Interim Director of the State Purchasing Office, Kay Kishline, has been named DPA's new State Purchasing Director. Kay has served in our department for the past eight years and is an expert in procurement systems and process innovation. Kay's ethics and professionalism are well-known to her colleagues and to many others throughout state government.

Previously she served as the State Purchasing Office's Manager of Procurement Programs, where she was responsible for the Bid Information and Distribution System (BIDS), small business development program, procurement training, and procurement card programs. She has established an exceptional reputation in her handling of vendor appeals, a program that Richard characterizes as "the best I've ever seen."



Paul Farley, DPA deputy executive director, takes a break from wildfire restoration work as part of Colorado Cares Day 2002 on August 3rd in the Hayman Fire area north of Woodland Park in Teller County. Farley joined more than 100 DPA volunteers in participating in this year's project, sponsored by Governor Owens and the Department of Natural Resources, which drew more than 1,200 state employees.

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FAIRWAY TO HEAVEN ?

BY RICHARD PENNINGTON, DIRECTOR, DIVISION OF FINANCE & PROCUREMENT

Larry Friedberg's team sets building maintenance priorities for facilities across the State. Every year, the Department of Military Affairs sets up a helicopter trip to a couple of armories that need work, so Larry can verify the requirements. DOMA and Larry usually invite others, in this case two analysts from OSPB. I asked to go along so I could see what Larry does, how he related to customers, and what their issues are. Larry has a nice program: he gets up on the roofs to assess criticality of problems, prioritizes an estimated \$380 million in state maintenance requests from among all the agencies and higher education institutions, and engages facilities folks in discussions about life safety risks and priorities.

It was my first ride in a Blackhawk, and I have never flown in a helicopter other than an Air Force one landing on prepared runways. So as we circled the Colorado Springs armory at about 9:00 a.m., I saw an athletic field to the north of the armory and west of I-25 that I imagined they were going to use. It looked a little small to me, and for a minute I thought the pilot was going to head off east to the Colorado Springs airport and make a more rational decision. Well, imagine my surprise, when he continued his circling, lined up to the north, and started the descent. I was a little disconcerted though, because the field I had seen was northwest of us about 400 meters. Imagine my greater surprise when I saw the armory roof appear to my left. He had put the helicopter down in the parking lot in front of the building! I have clearly led a protected aviator's life!

We did our business talking to the facilities folks at the armory, getting a tour and such.

Before we departed to Colorado Springs, I had a nice talk with the flight crew about the cockpit, power controls, and the "physics of flying" etc. The crew was great: the crew chief was a "full timer;" the pilot worked at Lockheed Martin in his other life; the copilot was a stockbroker.

We left Colorado Springs about 11:00 a.m. enroute to the Monte Vista armory. We were going right over the Broadmoor Hotel, and admiring it, when we started to get some funny vibrations and yawing. I thought maybe it was mountain turbulence, until I saw the crew chief tossing something forward to the pilots (I guess a checklist). Suddenly, the helicopter banked right into a 180-degree descending turn, into a descent like none I

had ever experienced (other than parachuting). I knew at that time something was wrong. Immediately I thought, "oh goody, I get to experience an autorotation." (An autorotation is when a helicopter has lost power and the pilot controls its position in such a way that the air causes the rotor to turn, helping slow the descent and provide a smoother landing). Anyway, it happened very fast, and there we were sinking. The descent stayed controlled, and we touched down firmly. Phew, cheated death again.



And there we were, planted in the right side of the fairway on the par 5, 17th hole of the Broadmoor East Golf Course, a nice nine-iron shot to a slightly elevated green with perfect pin placement. And how quickly the "unfriendlies" started descending on us in golf carts! There was one guy that seemed to be lining up a shot, and you could sense he was wondering whether with a nicely executed fade he could get it around us.

It turned out that a relay failed and the crew lost power on one electrical bus. According to the pilot, this seemed somewhat unusual, — neither pilot had ever had this happen — but he was having stabilizer control problems, and pilots don't mess with those situations. The pilots did a great job — any flight control problem leads to a decision to get down as fast as possible.

At about 1:30 p.m. we got back into another Blackhawk flown in to finish the trip. (Real fortitude, yes, to get back in one and keep going?) As you can imagine, everyone had some fun with this and the one-liners were flowing: "Can we play through?"; "I finally got to stand on the 17th fairway at the Broadmoor"; "Is this new golf cart technology?"; "It's probably the first time the pilot ever actually found a fairway"; "Is the helicopter in play?"; "This'll be used as an excuse to make par by everyone on the course." As we approached the helicopters, there were the golfers, dropping their balls in front of the nose and lofting their iron shots to the green.

We completed the flight to Monte Vista — uneventfully — and returned. What a gorgeous way to see Colorado. Tucked in between the peaks, skirting the Front Range back home, really was pretty. And what I really learned was an appreciation for what these uniformed folks do. Flying is hazardous enough, but it's got to be really scary in an operational environment. We need to all take the time to thank them for serving.

LETTERS

TO: Troy Eid, Executive Director, DPA
FROM: Marva Livingston Hammons, Executive
Director, Department of Human Services
SUBJECT: Recognition of Excellent Service



Dear Troy,

I am writing to commend two of your staff for the support that they have provided our department. The Department of Human Services (DHS) received funding this fiscal year for repairing portions of buildings at the Colorado Mental Health Institute at Fort Logan (CMHIFL). These particular buildings were a high risk for suicides due to the type and year in which they were constructed. In September, the DHS issued Purchase Orders for the high-risk areas at CMHIFL to be renovated. The contractor had ordered the materials and was waiting to schedule and coordinate the work with the hospital staff. During the special legislative session, these funds were suspended and eventually frozen due to the revenue shortfalls.

On June 30, 2002, at 10:20 AM, an adult patient at CMHIFL attempted suicide by hanging a sheet from the top of a toilet partition. Nursing staff was alerted, and immediately responded, saving the patient's life. The most recent suicide attempt follows at least one similar, but slightly less severe, incident in August 2001. Toilet and shower partitions in locked patient units at Fort Logan have been identified as significant suicide risks. In particular, partitions of the type that are anchored to the ceiling, as opposed to solid wall-type construction, are a high risk. Patients can use any fabric or material such as clothing, towels, sheets, etc., to loop over the partitions to attempt suicide.

The DHS immediately prepared an Emergency Controlled Maintenance project and submitted it to State Buildings Program (SBP) for their approval. The SBP delegate from our Department hand delivered the request so that DHS could receive immediate approval from SBP. Unfortunately, both Larry Friedberg and Carol Lewis were out of the office. Carol Lieber, sensing that this was truly a very serious emergency and liability to the State, called Larry while he was on vacation to get verbal approval to authorize the work to be completed. She was able to reach him and get immediate approval for our agency to begin work.

On behalf of the Department, I would like to personally commend State Buildings Program's Larry Friedberg and Carol Lieber for their quick response and support in acting on this very serious risk and liability to the State. Their commitment and responsiveness was invaluable to the Department and to the citizens of Colorado.

The members of the Capitol Building Advisory Committee were disappointed to learn the capital construction project to provide life safety improvements in the Capitol was suspended earlier this year due to state budgetary limitations. As you may know, the committee has a substantial interest in protecting the occupants and visitors in the Capitol, as well as the character and integrity of Colorado's most significant historic building. The improvements that would have been provided by the project were crucial to affording that protection.

The committee is heartened to learn that the Department of Personnel and Administration's State Buildings and Real Estate Program is pursuing grants from the State Historical Fund as an alternative source of funding to resume and complete the project as expeditiously as possible. Your department's leadership in accomplishing this endeavor is to be commended!

Please be assured the Capitol Building Advisory Committee enthusiastically Offers its support and assistance to your efforts.

Sincerely,

Representative Steve Johnson, Chairman

DHR 457 DC COMMITTEE AND STAFF WIN NATIONAL RECOGNITION

The National Association of Government Defined Contribution Administrators, Inc. (NAGDCA) have announced that Colorado's 457 Deferred Compensation Committee and Staff are one of the recipients of the **2002 Leadership Recognition Awards**. This recognition rewards excellence and innovation in retirement plan design, administration and/or effective communication methods in government defined contribution plans.

The Colorado group has been working to improve the look and accessibility of the plan's enrollment kit since spring of 2001 and rolled-out a new kit in January 2002.

Committee and staff members honored by this award are Suzanne Kubec, Art Barnhart, former State Senator Richard Mutzebaugh, Cari Arnold, and Michelle Carroll.

YVONNE RICO DPA SEPTEMBER EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH

Yvonne Rico of the Executive Office Human Resources Unit (HRU) is our Employee of the Month for September. She was selected because of her exceptional loyalty and dedication to her co-workers, and for always striving to create a harmonious work environment. She is willing to take on new challenges — in particular, on her very first day with HRU, she worked with a programmer to finalize the Performance Plan/Evaluation Tracking System so we could finish determining payout percentages. Her diligence in completing this contributed to the successful



first payouts under the Performance Pay Program. Her “can-do” attitude and exceptional teamwork and thoughtfulness, are great assets to HRU and the Department. **Congratulations Yvonne.**

OTHER DIVISION EMPLOYEES OF THE MONTH INCLUDE:

- Nancy Connick of DOAH
- Delaine Piontkowski of DCS
- Mike Taylor of DFP
- Leif Rundberget of DoIT.
- the DHR Solutions Group:

Judy Giovanni, Jacque Morley, Betty Crist, Joe Lewis, Mickey Crist, and Joi Simpson

PERSONNEL CHANGES

New Employees:

William Pierce, DCS
Gregory Webb, DCS
Frank Brysacz III, DCS
Lola Luna, DCS
Joseph Jiron, DCS
Zeke Morado, DCS
Robb Fuller, DoIT
Jonathan Richard, DHR
Isak Lode, DHR

Promotions:

Richard Pennington, DFP
Justin Brooks, DFP
Verneeda White, DFP
Tami Gladden, DoIT
Mary Martinez, DoIT

Retirements:

John Gaudreau, DCS

KUDOS

Sandy Dimatteo and Richard Pennington both received a note of thanks from Randy Jensen of CDOT for helping him with a time sensitive matter and even leaving our employee appreciation picnic in order to address his needs.

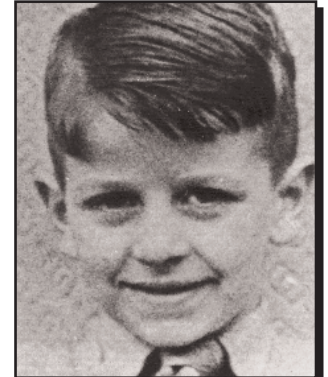
Kudos to both Sandy and Richard for going above and beyond the call of duty to help one of our customers resolve a pressing issue and walk away feeling well served by our Department.

WHO IS THAT ?

The baby featured in last month's *Dispatch* was Linda Summers, Deputy Director of Central Services.

Try to guess who the young man in the picture below and to the right is, and win a Starbucks gift certificate.

E-mail your answer to Julie Postlethwait at julie.postlethwait@state.co.us.



PARDON OUR DUST

The parking structure at 1555 Sherman Street is currently undergoing structural modifications, the resulting construction dust coupled with washing restrictions have prevented us from always providing clean vehicles for your rentals. We still clean the windows and interior of every rental, and apologize for the outward appearance.

DPA EMPLOYEE COUNCIL PICNICS

The 2002 DPA Employee Appreciation Picnics were a great success with participants enjoying great food, volleyball, water balloon toss, and pie-throwing. For the first time a picnic was held at North Campus to accommodate employees at that location. Executive Director Troy Eid and executive staff members were in attendance at all three Denver-Metro picnics, where they served food **and** as targets in the pie-throwing contest. Each picnic had something different to offer: Deputy Executive Director Paul Farley and *Stonehenge* entertained employees at the North Campus Picnic; Perci Masangkay provided music for the downtown picnic in Lincoln Park; a vendor supplied the Kipling employees with free ice cream; and Pueblo Employees enjoyed BBQ beef and pork sandwiches.

We all owe a big **thanks** to the DPA Employee Council members who worked hard all year holding fundraisers and planning the picnics.



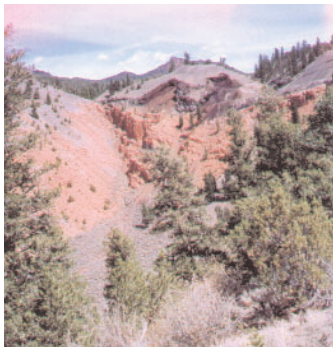
DOTSERO AND DOC

BY PAUL FARLEY

My wife's family had a big reunion in Glenwood Springs over the Labor Day weekend (see "A Tale of Two Valleys," March 2002), and along the way we encountered two unrelated kernels of Colorado history. Since not every story can be of Charles Lightoller-type epic proportions, I would look at these more as "fun facts to know and tell."

The first is just 18 miles east of Glenwood Springs, off the north side of I-70 at the Dotsero exit. Depending on who you talk to, the name of the small collection of mobile homes is either taken from the Ute word for "something unique," or came from early cartographers who used the spot as the starting place for their maps ("dot zero").

What makes the place especially notable is that it's got its very own volcano. A short drive leads to a small cinder cone, which geologists believe is less than 5000 years old – the site of the last volcanic eruption in Colorado history. The remnants of a basalt lava flow is also visible along the south side of the highway. Unfortunately, one side of the crater is currently being mined for volcanic aggregate, so if you're interested in seeing it, I wouldn't put it off for too long.



Dotsero Crater near Glenwood Springs.

The second item was at the old Pioneer (Linwood) Cemetery in Glenwood Springs. A short walk/hike from downtown, it is the final resting place of Doc Holliday, Old West gambler and gunman.

John Henry "Doc" Holliday was born in Georgia in 1851, and enrolled in dental school in 1870. He opened an office with another dentist in Atlanta two years later, but soon discovered that he had contracted tuberculosis. All of the doctors he consulted told him that he had not long to live, but might add a few months to his life if he moved to a dry climate. He moved to Dallas in the fall of 1873, where he practiced dentistry for a short time. But since his disease caused coughing spells at the most inconvenient times (while filling a cavity or making an extraction), his business declined and he soon had to find another way to earning a living.

He became a gambler, and at the same time began practicing with pistols and knives. In 1875, Holliday had a disagreement that ended in the death of a prominent citizen, and he was forced to flee Dallas. In the next

town, he was dealing cards when he was involved in a gunfight and killed a soldier. Now he had the Army, U.S. Marshals, Texas Rangers, and local lawmen and citizens on his trail. Holliday soon gained the reputation of being a cold-blooded killer. However, it was probably more that he figured a quick death in a gunfight might be no worse than the slow, painful end that he knew awaited him otherwise.

He went to Denver, stopping along the way in Pueblo, Leadville, Georgetown, and Central City, and killing three more men. Living under an assumed name, he was practically unknown until he was involved in another argument while dealing cards, and nearly stabbed a man to death. Over the next few years, he drifted throughout Wyoming, New Mexico, Texas, and Kansas, before ending up in Tombstone, Arizona at the gunfight at the



"He died in bed"

O.K. Corral in 1882. Soon thereafter he went back to Denver for a bit, then to Pueblo and Leadville, where he was involved in yet another shooting.

In May 1887, his health was steadily growing

worse, so Holliday went to Glenwood Springs in hopes that the sulfur pools might help. Despite his long-held belief that he would die by gunshot, hanging, or stabbing, he spent his last two months in bed. On the morning of November 8, 1887, he asked for a glass of whiskey, and drank it. Noting the incongruity of it all, he said, "This is funny", and died.

His headstone – obviously prepared by someone with a sense of humor – states simply "He died in bed", carrying with it the insult that he had not died in the gunfighter tradition with his boots on. The day we were there, it was adorned with playing cards, coins, and empty Jack Daniels bottles. I imagine Doc would have liked it like that.

THIS AND THAT:

- "There is nothing more exhilarating than to be shot at without result." — Winston S. Churchill
- In other geologic news, the "State Line Kimberlite District" along the Colorado-Wyoming border near Kelsey Lake is home to the only operating diamond mine in the United States. Since mining started in 1996, the largest diamond found is 28.3 carats, and about 5000 carats of gem quality stones are produced each year.